

NEW YORK HERALD.

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—LITTLE NELL AND
THE MARRIAGES.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—IN THE
THEATRE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—LAST DAY OF
THE GREAT FISH SHOW.

NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel.—
THE NEW YORK.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—LITTLE BARBARY.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE WHITE FAWN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—
THE FLYING DUTCHMAN.

BARNARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM, Broad-
way and 20th street.—MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—GYMNASIUM,
EQUESTRIANISM, &c. Matinee at 2 1/2.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—HAROLD
CRUISE.

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 720 Broadway.—SONGS,
DANCES, EQUESTRIANISM, &c.—GRAND DEUTCH.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 555 Broadway.—STRI-
KES, EQUESTRIANISM, SINGING, DANCING AND EQUESTRIANISM.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—COMIC
VOCALISM, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c. Matinee at 2 1/2.

BUTLER'S AMERICAN THEATRE, 472 Broadway.—
FARCES, PASTORALS, &c.

STEINWAY HALL.—MR. JAMES E. MURDOCK'S READINGS.

BUNYAN HALL, Broadway and Fifteenth street.—THE
PUNCH.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—
CAMEL.

ROOSEVELT OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETRIAN
MINSTRELS, BALLADS AND EQUESTRIANISM.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

New York, Wednesday, February 12, 1868.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

By special telegram from Constantinople, dated the
9th inst., we learn that the Turkish officials report
the arrival of the United States steamer Ticonderoga
on the coast of Crete, by special order of Admiral Far-
ragut, and that the American fleet in the European
waters will soon rendezvous in force in the Grecian
Archipelago.

Count Bismarck is unable to leave Berlin from sick-
ness. No change will be made in the Prussian Cabinet.
Festivities continue in Cork and convictions for
Peat treason in Dublin. Sir David Brewster is dead.
The British iron-clad ship-of-war Hercules was success-
fully launched. The Italian Parliament will honor
Admiral Farragut with a banquet. The loyal Irishmen
of London have addressed the Crown.

The steamship City of Paris, at this port, furnishes a
small news report to the 20th of January. The main
features have been fully anticipated by our cable tele-
grams.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. Davis, of Kentucky,
commenced his speech on the reconstruction measure,
but yielded after some remarks to a motion to go into
executive session.

In the House the Foreign Affairs bill was considered,
and went over at the expiration of the morning hour.
The President's letter to General Grant in answer to the
letter of the General submitted on the 4th inst. in refer-
ence to his action in surrendering the War Office to
Secretary Stanton was submitted and referred to the
Committee on Correspondence. A resolution
calling for all further correspondence
on the same subject was adopted. The Legislative
Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill was consid-
ered. Amendments were adopted prohibiting the Presi-
dent from employing a shorthand writer or detailing a
navy or army officer on civil service at the Executive
Mansion. General Grant's last letter to the President
was presented and referred to the Committee on Re-
construction.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate yesterday bills were introduced ap-
pointing Seth Green and R. B. Roosevelt Commissioners of
Fisheries to examine the rivers and streams of the
State, with a view to rendering them more productive
of fish, and relative to paying contracts in New York
city providing for crosswalks. Resolutions eulogistic of
the late Assemblyman Reed were adopted and the
Senate adjourned.

In the Assembly numerous reports of New York
boards and commissions were presented. Bills were
introduced to provide for the appointment of an ad-
ditional Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, and to
prohibit gas companies from charging rent upon their
suares. A resolution was adopted directing the Judiciary
Committee to report a bill to suppress obscene literature.
The concurrent resolution providing for the election of a
Metropolitan Police Commissioner to-day at noon was
called up and adopted. A resolution directing an in-
quiry into the performance of the duties of Health
officer of the port of New York, was tabled.

Mr. Burckman, of Brooklyn, was nominated for the
vacant Fourth Congressional District in a caucus of the
Republican members of the Legislature last evening.

In the Constitutional Convention yesterday session
eight of the reports of the Committee on Finance were
amended so that the State shall not give or loan its
credit to any individual or corporation, and that a two-
thirds vote shall be necessary to carry an appropriation
in either house of the Legislature. The fifteenth section,
relative to taxation, was amended that taxation shall
be equal, and sworn statements of property shall not be
required.

The majority in the Florida Convention have asserted
their supremacy and deposed the minority President and
Sergeant-at-Arms, appointed new committee, reorgan-
ized the Convention and expunged all its former pro-
ceedings.

The Louisiana Convention spent the day yesterday in
a disorderly squabble over the proposed increase of per-
dium. The Georgia Convention were engaged mainly in
the trial of the black lawyer Bradley. The North Caro-
lina Convention debated on the Judiciary report in Com-
mittee of the Whole, and the Virginia Convention re-
mained organized for a reduction of the tax on tobacco.
Nothing of importance was done in the South Carolina
or Mississippi Conventions.

The Arkansas Convention adopted the new constitu-
tion yesterday. It provides, among other things, for
blacks and negro suffrage and fixes the 15th day of
March as the day of election on its ratification.

As far as heard from in Alabama only 51,775 votes
have been polled for the constitution, 95,000 being
required to carry it.

In the United States Circuit Court yesterday, before
Judge Benedict, the case of the United States against
Lowenstein, charged with running an illicit distillery in
violation of the Revenue laws, was resumed. The case
being submitted to the jury a verdict of "guilty" was
returned, with a recommendation to mercy. Remanded
for sentence.

In the United States District Court yesterday, before
Judge Hatchford, the jury in the case of the United
States vs. several Bales of Blankets returned a verdict
for the claimants. In the same court a jury empanelled
in the case of the United States vs. A Rectifying Dis-
tillery in East Ninth street returned a verdict condemning
the distillery.

In the United States District Court in bankruptcy in
the matter of Robert C. Balaban, a bankrupt, in which
a question was raised as to the time to file specifications
against a debtor, Judge Hatchford decided that no
extension of the time provided by the act would be
granted. In the same court discharges in bankruptcy
were granted in the following cases:—Siegfried Isidor,
Julius Mosenthal, Max Lauterbach, Joseph E. Isaac,
Edwin E. O. Goodwin and James G. Fordeus.

In the United States District Court yesterday, before
Judge Benedict, a quantity of whiskey seized at differ-
ent places were recorded.

In the Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday Judge
Barnard granted a writ of error in the case of the People
vs. Margaret Walsh, convicted of the homicide of Officer
McCarthy.

In the Court of General Sessions yesterday, before Re-
sident Magistrate Henry B. Livingston was convicted of

forging a check and presenting it to Tiffany & Co. for
\$1,200. He was sentenced to the State Prison for three
years and fined \$2,500, to be further imprisoned until
paid.

General Grant and the Presidential
Succession—What Ought the Democracy to Do?

Time flies. The contest for the Presidential
succession comes on apace; but who is the
coming man? From the drift of recent events,
and the inevitable gravitation of the dominant
Union war sentiment of the country, we believe
that the child is christened, and that his name
is Ulysses S. Grant. On the great issue in the
republican camp (the reconstruction policy of
Congress) he has crossed the Rubicon; he is
with the radicals, and that settles the question.
Mr. Chase as an aspirant for the Chicago nomi-
nation ceases to be a dangerous competitor,
and will doubtless cease to push his claims.
General Grant, we dare say, will be proclaimed
the republican candidate by acclamation, and
from all the facts and indications bearing upon
the contest there is no probability of his de-
feat. In the powerful element embrac-
ing the surviving ten or eleven hundred
thousand Union soldiers of the war Grant, as
the great chieftain who directed their move-
ments from the Potomac to the Rio Grande,
and who finally compressed them from an area
of eight hundred thousand square miles into
the rebel surrender at Appomattox Court
House—Grant, we say, will have an army of
voters at his back that will be simply irre-
sistible.

What, then, are his qualifications for the White
House? we may very properly inquire. He is
not a statesman of the comprehensive views
and experience of Henry Clay; he is not the
man, hit or miss, who will "take the responsi-
bility," like General Jackson; he is not a philo-
sopher such as Jefferson, nor an expounder of
the constitution of the calibre of Webster; he
is not a politician of the cunning school of the
Albany Regency; he is not in finance up to
the mark of Fessenden or even "Old Thad
Stevens"; he is but a schoolboy in the arts of
political engineering compared with Chase; he
could, in the strategy and tactics, the quib-
bles and quibbles of the law, be bottled up by Ben
Butler, and he cannot begin to make an off-
hand political speech or complimentary ad-
dress with "Andy Johnson." Indeed, we have
the positive assurance of a copperhead con-
temporary to the effect that General Grant has
no turn of mind and has had no schooling in
the charms of literature; that he is incapable
of appreciating the beauties of Lord Derby's
translation of Homer, or Longfellow's render-
ing of Dante's "Inferno."

But with all these deficiencies, and notwith-
standing the facts that he was but the other day
a wood seller in St. Louis and still later a
tanner in Galena, there is some excellent stuff
in this quiet little man Grant for the White
House. His fund of practical common sense
and cool sagacity supply the place of
genius, and he has a practical theory of
the Union, the constitution and the laws
equal to the highest order of states-
manship. Without the rashness of "Old
Hickory," he has all his firmness in adhering to
his settled convictions. A practical advocate
of retrenchment and reform, he is no political
visionary aiming at impossibilities, and no be-
liever in Quixotic experiments. He is, withal,
an amiable man, disposed to try the healing
appliances of patience and conciliation over
sectional troubles, rather than the sharp Parli-
amental remedies of hot iron, caustic and am-
putation. Never having been broiled upon the
gridiron of either political party, he has no
personal revenge, like Jackson, to settle, and
no claims, like Buchanan, of a gang of twenty
years' followers to meet. Finally, in his brief
administration of the War Department General
Grant has shown that the mind equal to the
most effective combinations of a million of
men in the field is competent to shape the policy
of half a dozen men in the Cabinet.

We may, then, undertake to say that in the
election of General Grant the American people
will secure a good President and a reign of
internal harmony and prosperity and of external
influence and power under his administration.
But if the radicals are thus to secure a
new lease of four years in the government the
question here may be asked, What security
have we against the fulfillment of the wildest
schemes of the radical fanatics? We answer
that all dangers from another radical Congress
may be avoided by the election, with Grant,
of a conservative Congress. The comprehen-
sive powers of Congress under our political
system have at length been fully developed.
The lawmaking and impeaching department is
the sovereign branch of the government, subject
only to the will of the people. To this depart-
ment, then, the special attention of the demo-
cracy and all in the opposition ranks should
be devoted in the coming contest.

We believe that no opposition candidate can
be brought forth competent to defeat General
Grant. It is useless to suggest, even to the
sachems of Tammany Hall, the claims and
saving virtues of Andrew Johnson. They like
his office, but this man is not their man. He
is, perhaps, as little thought of as the Emperor
of China by the democratic managers as their
man for the succession. General Sherman
will hardly consent to run against Grant; and,
moreover, the Western copperheads are dead
against Sherman, and they do not like Hancock,
and they will have Pendleton. General Grant
as our next President, then, may be considered
a foregone conclusion; but the next Congress
will go far to shape the policy of the next
administration. Let the democracy, then,
turn their attention and their efforts from the
President to the next Congress, and they may
secure a House of Representatives which from
the beginning to the end will give us, under
Grant, a conservative administration. In every
Congressional district let an opposition
candidate for Congress be brought out whose
merits are known and recognized by all parties,
and let his battle be fought upon the broad
and living practical issues of the day,
and let democrats and all the opposition ele-
ments work with a will for his election, and
they may, in securing the next House of
Representatives, control President and Senate
and the whole policy of the government. This
is the true policy of the opposition, with Grant
in the field as the republican candidate for the
Presidential succession.

THE TRIAL OF DR. TENO.—This queer eco-
nomic trial is not yet ended. As far as it
has gone it seems to have developed that the
Board of Presbytery have already found the
accused guilty, and that therefore it would be
quite a work of supererogation for any one to

prove him innocent. The course taken by the
court in giving effect to its purpose is to blun-
dantly declare everything "irrelevant" that has
the slightest tendency in the culprit's favor. An
important point in the defence was to show
that the canon revived for the occasion was a
dead letter, and, in fact, ignored or "violated"
by the common usage of divines in every city;
but this the court would not permit to be
proved, for it would evidently be inconsistent
with its own foregone conclusion.

The Telegraph and the Press.

There is a certain disposition in the tele-
graph interest just now to dictate the conduct
of its customers. Having succeeded so
wonderfully in the manipulation of the
nominal value of their property the man-
agers of the Western Union Company feel
a sprouting ambition to do greater things in
this world—to reorganize the solar system, if
they may; and they propose to begin by
taking on their unoccupied hands the manage-
ment of the press. This is not exactly the
tearful eagerness of Alexander drying his eyes
at the prospect of new realms to be deranged,
but rather a renaissance of the spirit that
vitalized the Managers' Association in its
famous trial at managing other people's busi-
ness to the neglect and final ruin of its own.
As this new effort in the telegraph company
originates with men who are new to their
places and know very little of the relations of
the press and the telegraph a recapitulation
of some prominent points in the histories of the
respective interests may be timely and profit-
able.

At the commencement of its career the
HERALD stood alone and worked against a
combination of papers managed on different
principles; but it worked with energy and
courage and gained many advantages in the
struggle for popular favor. Its vigor con-
stantly gave it the most signal triumphs over
its opponents in putting the news before the
people at the earliest hour. Although the
older papers had then an organization among
themselves for securing harbor news the
HERALD was constantly ahead. In those days
of Liverpool liners, when the news brought by
each ship was six, eight or ten days "later"
than that brought by the preceding ship, it
was a matter of some moment to be the first
to lay the budget of fresh intelligence before
the eager mass of readers; and here it was
that the little HERALD made an impression;
for despite all that the older sheets could do
they were constantly beaten, and were com-
pelled to give the news to their readers copied
from an "Extra HERALD." They saw that the
HERALD was not an opponent to be despised,
and entered into an alliance with it—an as-
sociation for securing the news that was a com-
promise on the point of expenditure; but was
otherwise of mutual and general benefit.

Upon the demonstration of the feasibility of
transmitting news by the electric telegraph,
the building of lines to important points and
the crystallization of a considerable money in-
terest around the wonderful discovery, there
arose a collision between this interest and the
allied or associated newspapers. That was in
consequence of an attempt then made by the
telegraph people to manage the press. They
assumed to dictate what each paper should do
with the news they furnished. They wanted to
secure in the several members of the association
so many customers and have each customer
pay them individually so much for the same
paragraph, while the members of the
press held that one payment for the same
piece of news was enough. It was found, even
at that early day that the press was more
necessary to the telegraph than the telegraph
to the press, so that the telegraphers had to
acknowledge the vanity of their attempt and
give it up. That victory of the press was a
natural result of the laws of trade govern-
ing the two interests, and as it impressed upon
the men who managed the telegraph in those
days the exact point at which their power with
regard to newspapers must have its limit, no more
was heard for years of any attempt of the telegraph to dictate
to newspapers.

But another spirit has grown up—there are
new men in charge, and these have to learn
for themselves the lesson taught their prede-
cessors. The Western Union Telegraph has
attempted to become a vast monopoly, and
to swallow up all other companies like
an Aaron's serpent of stockjobbing. In this
it evinced a disposition to try the old
experiment over on a larger scale. It began
on small papers in the country, especially in
the Eastern States, fomenting the desire that
such journals as ventured to take news coming
by other lines could not be served in any case
by the Western Union. This first step of
encroachment might have been gained but for
the spirit with which it was met by the best of
the New England newspapers—we might
almost say the only really vital newspaper
published in the New England States, the
Springfield Republican. Moreover, these en-
croachments have already brought into exist-
ence successful opposition lines, that are
extending their field and will soon reach every
important point in the country.

Doubtless newspapers, whenever they feel
the pressure of the dominating and arro-
gant spirit of the Western Union Company
will take a timely alarm and assert their
own rights in the case. We say this in the
interest of the press generally, but more espe-
cially of those parts of it that may, if they
hesitate, be more at the mercy of this grasping
monopoly than any portion of the press in
this city can be. It must be remembered
that the telegraph companies are not uncar-
riers, and under their charters can be com-
pelled to transmit despatches presented; but
doubtless if any persistent effort against the
press were made a more effective remedy
would be the construction by newspaper men
of lines for their own use. Men stand ready
at all times to construct such lines on the mere
guarantee of receiving the newspaper busi-
ness.

It requires but little consideration of the
facts to point out clearly the advantage that
this would be to the press. The nominal value
of the Western Union Company's property is
forty million dollars. The company charges
for despatches at a rate that will enable it to
pay earnings on that sum. Now, the real
value of the property is only ten or fifteen
million dollars, and paying dividends on this
smaller sum would be secured by prices
seventy-five per cent less than the Western
Union Company charges; consequently new
lines would make the press telegraph bills one

quarter what they now are. Improved lines,
with the most recent additions that scientific
discovery has given, can be built at a cost
that will warrant these reductions in prices,
beside securing greater accuracy and cer-
tainty in the transmission of messages.

The War of the Impresarii.

The operatic situation becomes more interest-
ing every day. The forces on either side—
Pike's and the Academy—are drawn up in
line of battle, with the artillery of sopranos,
tenors and bassi bristling on the ramparts of
both opera houses. The first gun of the cam-
paign will be opened at the Academy to-night
by Major General Strakosch, and Field Marshal
Pike will commence operations on the west
side on Monday. Providence is said to be
always on the side of the heavier artillery,
and Strakosch has some big guns in the per-
sons of La Grange, Brignoli and Phillips. But
Pike is an admirable tactician, and he has
secured a large force for the campaign.
Maretzke's corps of Italians and Grover's
German veterans are expected to arrive at the
new opera house next week, and then the fun
will commence in earnest.

Among all the operatic generals that have
campaigned on the island of Manhattan the
most astonishing and Napoleonic is Pike. As
he contemplates his wonderful success on
Eighty avenue he may exclaim with Caesar,
"Veni, vidi, vici!" and the operatic public
will endorse him. But now the clouds
of war are thickening around him,
and diplomatic relations are broken off
between him and Strakosch. He issued his
ultimatum to the La Grange and Brignoli
government—forty per cent of the gross receipts
or nothing—and the two hundred and fifty
stockholders of the Academy, with Drum Major
Kingsland at their head, bore off the captive
Strakosch in triumph to their stronghold.
Every artifice was tried by them to gain over
the forces of the enemy to their side. Reliable
gentlemen, intelligent contrabands, glowing
telegrams and veracious statements, like those
we had during the war, were put in requisition
by the two hundred and fifty chiefs of the
Academy. We have not the slightest doubt
that the Irving place opera house will be
crowded and that the campaign will open bril-
liantly for Major General Strakosch and Drum
Major Kingsland; for the house on the west side
was filled to its utmost extent on many nights
during the time that La Grange and Brignoli
sang there. On the other hand, Maretzke, prob-
ably fortified by the experience of past dis-
asters, will make a masterly disposition of his
forces, and we await with breathless anxiety
the result of the mighty conflict.

The exploits of Peter the Headstrong when
he marched against the Swedes and the cunning
Kisling, all of which are chronicled by the
veracious Dietrich Knickerbocker, will be
eclipsed by the daring feats of Pike and
his myrmidons. Among the warriors who
holst the Pike standard—"a flank of
Bourbon rampant on a field of barley, gules"—
are the numerous forces of Maretzke, who
evacuated the Academy some time ago, and
the valiant Tentons of Grover, beyond the
time of whose debut in this city the memory of
man runneth not. Field Marshal Pike has
others in reserve—perhaps Patit and the other
Strakosch—and he complacently awaits the
attack of the two hundred and fifty from Irving
place. The Stayevant manuscript, slightly
paraphrased for the occasion, can none de-
scribe the impending battle of the impresarii—
"Expectation now stands on stilts. The world
forgot to turn around, or rather stands still,
like a round-bellied alderman watching the
combat of two chivalrous flies upon his jerkin.
Historians fill their inkhorns; poets and orators
go without their dinners; antiquity scowls
sulkily out of its grave to see itself outdone,
while even posterity stands mute, gazing in
gaping ecstasy of retrospection on the eventful
field. Now the mighty chieftains marshal out
their hosts. Here stands the immovable Strako-
sch, incensed with stockholders and in-
trenched to the chin in Verdi, Bellini and
Donizetti batteries. His valiant orchestra line
the breastworks of the Academy in grim array,
and his great guns of sopranos, alto, tenor and
bass calibre are ready to launch forth
cavatinas, arias and choruses on the heads
of the assailants." On the other side
is the intrepid Pike, shouting his war
cry, "No stockholders! Forty per cent
forever!" and his terrible batteries of Italian,
German and Bourbon artillery are prepared to
rake all the approaches to Eighty avenue and
annihilate the devoted stockholders. Or like
two modern gladiators essaying their powers
against the newly revised rules, &c., the
impresarii deliver terrific blows against each
other's craniums. Now Strakosch throws out a
left-hander in the shape of "Il Trovatore,"
which is cleverly stopped by Pike with Wal-
lace's "Lurline." Then, after flinging with
"Un Ballo in Maschera," Strakosch delivers a
sledge hammer blow with the "Prophet" and
Pike retaliates with "L'Africaine." As in all
great wars there are free bands who fight inde-
pendently of either side, so in this operatic
conflict we have already a partisan company
of artists on Sixth avenue, at Lyric Hall, going
into the fight on Friday next.

OBITUARY.

Sir David Brewster.
The cable brings us intelligence of the death of the
distinguished British scientist on the 10th inst., in the
eighty-seventh year of his age.

Sir David Brewster was born in Jedburgh, Scotland,
December 11, 1781. He was educated for the Church of
Scotland, and he became licentiate, and in 1800 he
received from the University of Edinburgh the honorary
degree of A. M. While studying there he enjoyed
the intimate friendship of Robinson, Playfair and
Dugald Stewart. In 1804 he undertook the
editorship of the "Edinburgh Encyclopedia," which was
only finished in 1830. In 1807 he received the honorary
degree of D. D. from the University of Aberdeen, and
subsequently from the University of Glasgow. He was
elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in
1810, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of London in
1812. He devoted his attention to the study of optics
and the results were embodied in a "Treatise on New
Philosophical Instruments" in 1831, which was announ-
ced by him as his discovery in regard to the trans-
mission of light, which was also made by
Malton and Arago. From this time his contribu-
tions to the Edinburgh and London philosophical transac-
tions contain the record of many brilliant discoveries
in optics in regard to the polarization of light, and also
the absorption of light in passing through various
media. While writing the article on "Polarizing Instru-
ments" in the "Edinburgh Encyclopedia" he was led
by a proposal of Buffon to suggest the construction of a
new illuminating apparatus for lighthouses, to construct
a model out of pieces of glass, by the aid of which he
made out the lines of light, and he was the author of
several circular segments, and thus increase the
illuminating power to an extraordinary degree. This
beautiful and reliable instrument was claimed by the
French scientist Fresnel, and it now bears his name. In
1816 Dr. Brewster invented the kaleidoscope, an in-
strument which has had immense sales, but which resulted
in pecuniary benefits to the inventor, in consequence of
the patent being evaded. In 1819, in conjunction
with Professor Jameson, he established the Edinburgh
Philosophical Institution, and subsequently the "Edin-
burgh Journal of Science." In 1825 the Institute
of France elected Dr. Brewster a corresponding
member, and he has since received the same
honors from the royal academies of
Berlin, Prussia, Austria, Sweden and Denmark. In
1837 he proposed a bill, meeting at York, on the subject
of the British Association for the Advancement of
Science; and in the same year he received the decoration
of the Honorary Legion of Honour, and the next
year the honor of knighthood from King William IV.
In 1858 he was appointed Principal of the University of
St. Andrews, being the first layman who ever held that
office. In 1859 he was unanimously elected Principal
of the University of Edinburgh. In 1849 he
was elected one of the eight foreign mem-
bers of the Imperial Institute of France, the
distinguished philosopher Arago being the Chair-
man of the Committee on Selection of Candidates. Sir
David received from the Prussian Order of Merit, and
in 1850 the Emperor Napoleon made him Officer of the
Legion of Honor. Sir David has edited and written
various works, besides contributing largely to the Edin-
burgh and Quarterly Reviews, and the transactions of all
the prominent scientific associations in Great Britain.
His most popular works are a "Treatise on
the Kaleidoscope," "Treatise on Optics," "Letters on
Natural Magic," "The Harp of Science," "Dis-
covery of the Life and Writings of Sir Isaac Newton."
"More Worlds than One" and others that we have not
space to mention. It is impossible to recall here in our
limited space all the facts with which Sir David was
enriched the most delicate branches of natural philoso-
phy, and the laws, experimental and positive, to which
he has reduced these discoveries, cannot be expressed
except in scientific terms and formulae not generally
understood. His development of Newton's discovery of
the polarization of light really constituted a new
branch of science. The result of his researches
in the domain of science and optics, as it were, a mine
of scientific wealth from which his contemporaries have
already freely drawn, and which furnishes a rich field
for future philosophers. We also owe to the deceased
valuable facts resulting from his researches on the
mean temperature of the earth, and the depths of the
meridional lines. In his examination of the natural
world he also discovered two new birds. Dr.
Brewster was not indifferent to the general interest
of ideas and to the political and social questions that
have agitated the world. In religion he adopted the
principles of the Independent Free Church. His first
wife was a daughter of Sir William Forbes, and his
second wife was a daughter of the late Thomas Pringle. Sir David Brewster's death will
be lamented wherever science has her votaries.

Another Bank Defalcation.

The rumor which startled Wall street on
Monday afternoon with an alleged robbery of
the American Exchange National Bank by its
assistant cashier put the loss at half a million
dollars. The President of the bank, however,
in a note which appeared in yesterday's HERALD,
states that "after very careful investigation
it is found that the bank may be involved
in a loss not exceeding sixty thousand dollars."
He says also—"Our late assistant cashier was
discovered to have been privately engaged in
speculations. His resignation was immediately
accepted by the Board." Here we have a
repetition of the same old story, which might
almost be stereotyped, with variations only in
the figures, so familiar has it become to Wall
street. Often and often as such a defalcation
occurs its exposure fails to make it an effec-
tual warning. Another and still another fol-
lows closely on its heels, until people are
half driven to hoard their money, like old Mr.
Bennehoff, the petroleum millionaire, who made
a home guard of himself and family. His
doleful experience, indeed, is not very encourag-
ing to those who are tempted to believe
that every man must be his own banker. But
if Mr. Bennehoff lost several hundred thousand
dollars by burglars he has at least the satisfac-
tion of knowing how he lost it, whereas de-
positors in banks the officers in which are "dis-
covered to have been privately engaged in
speculation" are never likely to know defi-
nitely how their money is lost.

Is there no remedy for the evil of which this
latest bank defalcation is an example? The
laws are sufficiently stringent to meet the case,
but if the Legislature can devise means for
more faithfully enforcing the laws let it be
done forthwith. Might not the almost habitual
practice on the part of bank directors of omit-
ting to prosecute the guilty defaulter be made
a penal offence?

Seventy-three Days from Liverpool.

The HERALD published on Monday a thrilling
account of the long and perilous passages of
the packet ships Columbia and Neptune from
Liverpool to this port. The Neptune took
forty-three days and the Columbia seventy-
three days to make a voyage which steamers
have repeatedly made in from eight to ten
days, and probably will make ere long in
seven days. A painful and forcible illustration
has thus been afforded of the fact that the days
of sailing ships, at least for winter navigation
of the Atlantic, are few and well numbered. The
marvellous change which steam has wrought in
the conditions of transit, both for passengers
and for freight, must be more fully recognized
than ever. The time is speedily coming when
propellers like the William Penn, the Bellona,
the Cella and the Atlanta must take the place
of sailing vessels on every sea. The superior
advantages of propellers over paddle wheel
steamers have been attested by experience.
Burning, as the former do, six hundred and
fifty tons of coal less than the paddle boats,
they can consequently carry six hundred and
fifty tons more freight, and the expenses of coal
and coalpassers and a variety of other ex-
penses are materially reduced. The advantages
of propellers over sailing vessels are propor-
tionately great. They can carry three times as
many passengers and far more freight at less
expense and in much less time than any packet
ship.

We hear occasionally of projected American
lines and of plaintive petitions for subsidies;
but there would be no necessity for wasting talk
and time in begging for subsidies if leading
capitalists would but combine to plan and put
in operation several great lines of propellers.
Both capitalists and the public would reap rich
and immediate benefits from such enterprises,
which could not fail to be self-sustaining.

ENGLAND.

Death of Sir David Brewster—Lunch of a
Huge Iron-Clad-Loyal Irish to the Queen.
LONDON, Feb. 11, 1868.

Sir David Brewster, the celebrated English physi-
cian and distinguished scientific discoverer, and author, died
last evening at the advanced age of eighty-seven.
The British iron-clad ship-of-war Hercules, said to be
the largest in the world, has been successfully launched
at the Chatham dockyard.

A deputation from the loyal Irishmen of London
yesterday waited upon the Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy,
at the Home Office, and presented him an address ex-
pressing their devotion to the British Crown.

The Home Secretary replied to their address in an
appropriate speech, thanking them for their manifesta-
tions of loyalty.

IRELAND.

Encounter Between the Fenians and Police—
A Capital Conviction—Trials for Sedition.
DUBLIN, Feb. 11, 1868.

Another attack was made upon the police in the
streets yesterday by the mob, who pelted them with
stones and bricks. The police, who were armed
with muskets, fired bayonets and charged upon the
crowd.

A short and desperate fight followed, in which several
of the rioters were bayoneted. The assailants then
fled in all directions, leaving the wounded on the
ground.

During the day an attempt was made to seize a well
known informer and Lynch him; but the appearance of
a police patrol prevented the outrage from being carried
out.

One man is known to have been killed by the police
yesterday when they charged upon the crowd with
bayonets.</